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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY USSR

SUBJECT Explosives Plants

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1.

2   We were told by a very good friend about operations in an explosives plant
    in Slavyansk. Here, although railroad rails and transfer car wheels were made
    of wood and all work was carried on in cubicles, explosions sometimes
    occurred. Our friend, who was employed at the plant, had burn scars on his
    neck and face. Picrates were not manufactured at this plant.

3. Explosives Plant #12 in Elektrostal employed about 4,000 workers. This
    plant had two very serious explosions, one in May 1944, and the
    other in June 1944. About 100 persons were killed in each explosion.
    Although [   ] was two or three kilometers from the plant, all window
    frames and glass were shattered. Many buildings [   ] were
    ruined. Many of the employees at this plant were stained yellow
    indicating that picrates were manufactured here. We also saw empty
    bomb casings and loaded bombs on the station loading platform every
    day. These bombs were of sizes ranging up to 28" in diameter and
    12 ft in length. This plant was still in production in 1947 Late in
    1946 or early in 1947 about 20-40 German scientists arrived at the
    plant and were quartered in special cottages.

4   In the summer of 1943 an explosives plant located 10 km from Kudinova
    and 35 km from Moscow had an explosion which completely destroyed
    a neighboring village and which was felt 20 km away.

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